

New License Plate Release – Low speed vehicle

Please note the following information:

The creation of these plates is due to the passage of HB 21 in 2009, the Kentucky Revised Statute 186.010 was amended to include and define a “Low-Speed vehicle” as a motor vehicle. Additionally, this same House Bill modified the definition of a motorcycle to include an “Alternative-Speed motorcycle”. For additional details and examples, please see the attached November 2009 memo regarding this topic.

To determine if a vehicle can be defined as a Low-Speed Vehicle (LSV), it must meet the following requirements:

1. Does not exceed a maximum speed of 25mph
2. Is self-propelled by an electric motor, combustion-driven motor, or a combination of both
3. Is four (4) wheeled
4. Must have a 17 digit character that meets the requirements set forth in 49 C.F.R. sec.565

Other items to consider:

If on the face of the title/Certificate of Origin, if the manufacturer indicates that is for '*Off-road Use Only*', this vehicle CANNOT be considered to be an LSV.

Golf carts- though the definitions between these two vehicles have similarities, there are several differences that must be considered particularly that of maximum speed. Please see KRS 189.286 for the definition of "Golf cart";

<http://www.lrc.ky.gov/Statutes/statute.aspx?id=6362>

Japanese mini-trucks- these vehicles have yet to be defined through Kentucky legislation or allowed for on-road use. Vehicles described as such may not be registered and plated for on road use.

EZ-Go- these vehicles have yet to be defined through Kentucky legislation or allowed for on-road use. Vehicles described as such may not be registered and plated for on road use.

Please review the attached document for inventory type, registration codes, prices, vehicle types, body styles and cylinder codes in order to title and register Low-Speed Vehicles.



Steven L. Beshear
Governor

TRANSPORTATION CABINET

Frankfort, Kentucky 40622
www.transportation.ky.gov/
MEMORANDUM

Michael W. Hancock, P.E.
Acting Secretary

TO: Kentucky County Clerks

FROM: Godwin Onodu, Assistant Director *gow*
Division of Motor Vehicle Licensing

DATE: November 16, 2009

SUBJECT: Low-Speed Vehicles

Due to the passage of House Bill 21 in 2009, the Kentucky Revised Statute 186.010 was amended to include and to define a "Low-Speed Vehicle" as motor vehicle. Additionally, this same House Bill modified the definition of a motorcycle to include an "Alternative-Speed Motorcycle".

Low-Speed Vehicle (LSV):

- Motor vehicle that is self-propelled by an electric motor, combustion-driven motor, or a combination of both. Off-road vehicles as indicated by the manufacturers are not included.
- Four (4) wheeled
- Designed to operate at a speed of 25 mph or less
- Must have a 17 digit character that meets the requirements set forth in 49 CFR 565

The registration codes for LSV are as follows:

- Vehicle type – A or T
- Body styles remain as currently used (2D, 4D, PK, etc.)
- "OE" in the Cylinder field for electric vehicle – Slow Moving
- "OG" in the Cylinder field for gasoline vehicle – Slow Moving
- "OH" in the Cylinder field for hybrid vehicle – Slow Moving

Alternative-Speed Motorcycle (ASM):

- Self-propelled motorcycle using an electric motor, combustion-driven motor, or a combination of both. Unenclosed two (2) or three (3) wheeled are not included.
- Three (3) wheeled
- Fully enclosed cab
- Designed to operate at a speed of 40 mph or less, and complies with KRS 189 and 189A

The registration codes for ASM are as follows (Z):

- Body style is "EN" for enclosed motorcycle
- "OE" for electric vehicle in the cylinder field – Alternative Speed
- "OG" for gasoline vehicle in the cylinder field – Alternative Speed
- "OH" for hybrid vehicle in the cylinder field – Alternative Speed



Motor Vehicle:

- As defined in KRS 186.020 to 186.260, the process remains the same
- Self-propelled – muscular powered by an electric motor, combustion-driven motor, or a combination of both
- Four (4) or more wheeled

The registration codes for motor vehicles are as follows:

- Body styles remain as currently used (2D, 4D, PK, etc.)
- Number of cylinder (4, 6, 8) for either gas or diesel
- “EV” for an electric motor vehicle in the cylinder field – Electric Vehicle
- “HV” for a hybrid motor vehicle in the cylinder field – Hybrid Vehicle

Please note that the speed and the number of wheels a vehicle has, determine how that vehicle should be classified. For an example, if you have a vehicle that has a fully enclosed cab with three (3) wheels, but can operate at a speed greater than 40 mph, then you should classify it as a motorcycle (Z). On the other hand, if the same vehicle operates at a speed of less than 40 mph, it should be classified as an ASM.

Furthermore, if you have a vehicle with two (2) wheels, unenclosed, and capable of a maximum speed of not more than thirty (30) mph, you should consider it as a moped and therefore should not be titled and/or registered. House Bill 21 did not cover low-speed unenclosed motorized bicycles.

We anticipate having the programming completed in AVIS by November 20, 2009, with full production date set for November 30, 2009.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Division of Motor Vehicle Licensing at (502) 564-2737.

Cc: Tom Zawacki
Rick Taylor
Willie Payton

186.010 Definitions.

- (1) "Cabinet," as used in KRS 186.400 to 186.640, means the Transportation Cabinet; except as specifically designated, "cabinet," as used in KRS 186.020 to 186.270, means the Transportation Cabinet only with respect to motor vehicles, other than commercial vehicles; "cabinet," as used in KRS 186.020 to 186.270, means the Department of Vehicle Regulation when used with respect to commercial vehicles.
- (2) "Highway" means every way or place of whatever nature when any part of it is open to the use of the public, as a matter of right, license, or privilege, for the purpose of vehicular traffic.
- (3) "Manufacturer" means any person engaged in manufacturing motor vehicles who will, under normal conditions during the year, manufacture or assemble at least ten (10) new motor vehicles.
- (4) "Motor vehicle" means in KRS 186.020 to 186.260, all vehicles, as defined in paragraph (a) of subsection (8) of this section, which are propelled otherwise than by muscular power. As used in KRS 186.400 to 186.640, it means all vehicles, as defined in paragraph (b) of subsection (8) of this section, which are self-propelled. "Motor vehicle" shall not include a moped as defined in this section, but shall include low-speed vehicles as defined in this section.
- (5) "Moped" means either a motorized bicycle whose frame design may include one (1) or more horizontal crossbars supporting a fuel tank so long as it also has pedals, or a motorized bicycle with a step-through type frame which may or may not have pedals rated no more than two (2) brake horsepower, a cylinder capacity not exceeding fifty (50) cubic centimeters, an automatic transmission not requiring clutching or shifting by the operator after the drive system is engaged, and capable of a maximum speed of not more than thirty (30) miles per hour.
- (6) "Operator" means any person in actual control of a motor vehicle upon a highway.
- (7)
 - (a) "Owner" means a person who holds the legal title of a vehicle or a person who pursuant to a bona fide sale has received physical possession of the vehicle subject to any applicable security interest.
 - (b) A vehicle is the subject of an agreement for the conditional sale or lease, with the vendee or lessee entitled to possession of the vehicle, upon performance of the contract terms, for a period of three hundred sixty-five (365) days or more and with the right of purchase upon performance of the conditions stated in the agreement and with an immediate right of possession vested in the conditional vendee or lessee, or if a mortgagor of a vehicle is entitled to possession, the conditional vendee or lessee or mortgagor shall be deemed the owner.
 - (c) A licensed motor vehicle dealer who transfers physical possession of a motor vehicle to a purchaser pursuant to a bona fide sale, and complies with the requirements of KRS 186A.220, shall not be deemed the owner of that motor vehicle solely due to an assignment to his dealership or a certificate of title in the dealership's name. Rather, under these circumstances, ownership shall transfer upon delivery of the vehicle to the purchaser, subject to any

applicable security interest.

- (8) (a) "Vehicle," as used in KRS 186.020 to 186.260, includes all agencies for the transportation of persons or property over or upon the public highways of this Commonwealth and all vehicles passing over or upon said highways, excepting road rollers, road graders, farm tractors, vehicles on which power shovels are mounted, such other construction equipment customarily used only on the site of construction and which is not practical for the transportation of persons or property upon the highways, such vehicles as travel exclusively upon rails, and such vehicles as are propelled by electric power obtained from overhead wires while being operated within any municipality or where said vehicles do not travel more than five (5) miles beyond the city limit of any municipality.
- (b) As used in KRS 186.400 to 186.640, "vehicle" means every device in, upon or by which any person or property is or may be transported or drawn upon a public highway, excepting devices moved by human and animal power or used exclusively upon stationary rails or tracks, or which derives its power from overhead wires.
- (9) KRS 186.020 to 186.270 apply to motor vehicle licenses. KRS 186.400 to 186.640 apply to operator's licenses.
- (10) "Dealer" means any person engaging in the business of buying or selling motor vehicles.
- (11) "Commercial vehicles" means all motor vehicles that are required to be registered under the terms of KRS 186.050, but not including vehicles primarily designed for carrying passengers and having provisions for not more than nine (9) passengers (including driver), motorcycles, sidecar attachments, pickup trucks and passenger vans which are not being used for commercial or business purposes, and motor vehicles registered under KRS 186.060.
- (12) "Resident" means any person who has established Kentucky as his or her state of domicile. Proof of residency shall include but not be limited to a deed or property tax bill, utility agreement or utility bill, or rental housing agreement. The possession by an operator of a vehicle of a valid Kentucky operator's license shall be prima-facie evidence that the operator is a resident of Kentucky.
- (13) "Special status individual" means:
 - (a) "Asylee" means any person lawfully present in the United States who possesses an I-94 card issued by the United States Department of Justice, Immigration and Naturalization Service, on which it states "asylum status granted indefinitely pursuant to Section 208 of the Immigration & Nationality Act";
 - (b) "K-1 status" means the status of any person lawfully present in the United States who has been granted permission by the United States Department of Justice, Immigration and Naturalization Service to enter the United States for the purpose of marrying a United States citizen within ninety (90) days from the date of that entry;

- (c) "Refugee" means any person lawfully present in the United States who possesses an I-94 card issued by the United States Department of Justice, Immigration and Naturalization Service, on which it states "admitted as a refugee pursuant to Section 207 of the Immigration & Nationality Act"; and
 - (d) "Paroled in the Public Interest" means any person lawfully present in the United States who possesses an I-94 card issued by the United States Department of Justice, Immigration and Naturalization Service, on which it states "paroled pursuant to Section 212 of the Immigration & Nationality Act for an indefinite period of time."
- (14) "Instruction permit" includes both motor vehicle instruction permits and motorcycle instruction permits.
- (15) "Motorcycle" means any motor driven vehicle having a seat or saddle for the use of the operator and designed to travel on not more than three (3) wheels in contact with the ground, including vehicles on which the operator and passengers ride in an enclosed cab. "Motorcycle" shall include an alternative-speed motorcycle as defined in this section, but shall not include a tractor or a moped as defined in this section.
- (16) "Low-speed vehicle" means a motor vehicle that:
- (a) Is self-propelled using an electric motor, combustion-driven motor, or a combination thereof;
 - (b) Is four (4) wheeled; and
 - (c) Is designed to operate at a speed not to exceed twenty-five (25) miles per hour as certified by the manufacturer.
- (17) "Alternative-speed motorcycle" means a motorcycle that:
- (a) Is self-propelled using an electric motor, combustion-driven motor, or a combination thereof;
 - (b) Is three (3) wheeled;
 - (c) Has a fully enclosed cab and includes at least one (1) door for entry; and
 - (d) Is designed to operate at a speed not to exceed forty (40) miles per hour as certified by the manufacturer.
- (18) "Multiple-vehicle driving range" means an enclosed area that is not part of a highway or otherwise open to the public on which a number of motor vehicles may be used simultaneously to provide driver training under the supervision of one (1) or more driver training instructors.

Effective: July 12, 2012

History: Amended 2012 Ky. Acts ch. 16, sec. 2, effective July 12, 2012. -- Amended 2009 Ky. Acts ch. 103, sec. 1, effective June 25, 2009. -- Amended 2002 Ky. Acts ch. 264, sec. 1, effective July 15, 2002. -- Amended 2001 Ky. Acts ch. 43, sec. 2, effective June 21, 2001. -- Amended 1994 Ky. Acts ch. 51, sec. 1, effective July 15, 1994. -- Amended 1988 Ky. Acts ch. 287, sec. 1, effective January 1, 1989. -- Amended 1986 Ky. Acts ch. 431, sec. 7, effective January 1, 1987. -- Amended 1982 Ky. Acts ch. 194, sec. 2, effective July 15, 1982. -- Amended 1978 Ky. Acts ch. 349, sec. 2, effective June 17, 1978. -- Amended 1974 Ky. Acts ch. 74, Art. IX, sec. 20(2), (7), (9). -- Amended 1966 Ky. Acts ch. 139, sec. 2, effective January 1, 1967. -- Amended 1962 Ky. Acts ch. 62, sec. 1, effective January 1, 1963. -- Amended 1956

(1st Extra. Sess.) Ky. Acts ch. 7, Art. X, sec. 10, effective September 1, 1956. -- Amended 1950 Ky. Acts ch. 190, secs. 1 and 2, effective June 15, 1950. -- Amended 1942 Ky. Acts ch. 78, sec. 1. -- Recodified 1942 Ky. Acts ch. 208, sec. 1, effective October 1, 1942, from Ky. Stat. secs. 2739g-1, 2739m-33.

189.282 Operation of low-speed vehicle on highway.

- (1) As used in this section, "low-speed vehicle" shall have the same meaning as in KRS 186.010.
- (2) A person may operate a low-speed vehicle on a highway if:
 - (a) The vehicle meets the federal motor vehicle safety standards for low-speed vehicles set forth in 49 C.F.R. sec. 571.500;
 - (b) The vehicle displays a seventeen (17) character vehicle identification number that meets the requirements set forth in 49 C.F.R. 565;
 - (c) The posted speed limit of the highway is thirty-five (35) miles per hour or less;
 - (d) The operator of the low-speed vehicle does not cross a roadway at an at-grade intersection where the roadway being crossed has a posted speed limit of more than thirty-five (35) miles per hour unless the intersection is equipped with an electronic traffic signal;
 - (e) The operator has a valid operator's license in his or her possession; and
 - (f) The low-speed vehicle has not been modified to increase its speed above its original standard manufactured limit.
- (3) A low-speed vehicle operating on a highway shall be insured in compliance with KRS 304.39-080 by the owner or operator, and the proof of insurance shall be inside the vehicle at all times of operation on a highway.
- (4) A low-speed vehicle operating on a highway is considered to be a motor vehicle as defined in KRS 186.010 and shall be titled in accordance with KRS Chapter 186A and registered as a motor vehicle in accordance with KRS 186.050(3)(a).
- (5) An operator of a low-speed vehicle operating on a highway shall comply with the traffic regulations of KRS Chapter 189 and shall be subject to the provisions of KRS Chapter 189A.

Effective: June 25, 2009

History: Created 2009 Ky. Acts ch. 103, sec. 2, effective June 25, 2009.

Low Speed Vehicle Plates (LSV)

Inventory Type, Codes & Prices

Inventory Type: 1L

AVIS Action	Appl. Fee	State Fee	Clerk Fee	Fund Amt.	Total	Reg. Codes
Initial Application	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Initial Issue Reg.	N/A	\$15.00	\$6.00	N/A	\$21.00	PQ
Renewal Reg.	N/A	\$15.00	\$6.00	N/A	\$21.00	PQ
Re-Issue Reg.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

- Vehicle type A or T
- Body style remains as currently used: 2D, 4D, PK, etc.
- “OE” in the cylinder field for electric vehicle-slow moving
- “OG” in the cylinder field for gasoline vehicle-slow moving
- “OH” in the cylinder field for hybrids-slow moving
- Inventory year for this plate is 2008.
- Expiration month is birth month.
- This plate is not available for personalization.